

# THE INDEPENDENT

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ELIZABETH CITY, N. C. FRIDAY, DEC. 16, 1921.

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## DAY NURSERY ADVOCATED FOR AID OF NEEDY POOR

County Welfare Officer Sees Chance to Release Many Girls Who Are Kept Out of School and Employment

That a "Good Will" center or Community House combining a Day Nursery would do much to alleviate suffering among the destitute and add much to the prosperity of the poor of this city, is the opinion of Mrs. Anna Lewis, Welfare Officer for Pasquotank County. Mrs. Lewis' daily occupation keeps her in touch with every phase of need among the poverty stricken and her investigations have proved conclusively that such a co-operative institution would be of inestimable value in lessening the donations required to fill the increasing number of calls coming into her office daily.

Mrs. Lewis has found in some homes where the mothers are away working, that colored help is hired to take care of the smaller children, costing the greater part of the mother's income. She has found in other homes, girls from 10 to 14 years of age who would be released from the duties of house-keeping and nursing and placed in schools. Others beyond school age would be given a chance to obtain employment and add to their own self support and the support of the family as well.

Since November 19 the Welfare Officer has investigated in this city over 40 cases that have applied for aid. Of this number she has found only four cases whose destitution could be traced directly to sickness. There were about five cases due to destitution and about five cases due to being in no need of immediate aid. Several of the cases investigated were traced directly to mismanagement, which Mrs. Lewis was able to point out and remedy, by showing the housekeeper more effective means of running her kitchen and household expenses.

After running up with a few cases that have proved unworthy, Mrs. Lewis believes it advisable to investigate all appeals for charity, in order to avoid giving needlessly to unworthy cases. It has been found that some cases have received more than necessary for their immediate needs when others had to do without. In one instance she found that an applicant had appealed for food and fuel to enough to last for some time. Investigation of this case proved the inestimable value, for the donations in hand are limited and it is of the utmost necessity that they be made to go as far as possible.

Another way to forestall duplication in giving is to have a sort of clearing house so that by centralizing the distribution of gifts the probabilities of repetition are negligible. Most of the organizations engaging in charity work usually do their own distributing, which might be done more effectively through Mrs. Lewis' offices, thus saving a lot of work and complications. This would not monopolize the organization could be done, for the extent of its work, credited with the different enterprises but would give the different enterprises the advantage of an investigating agency and otherwise would lessen the burdens all around.

The idea of a day nursery as advocated by Mrs. Lewis has met with the approval of several employers who have pledged their co-operation in furthering the cause. Located in the mill section the institution would do a lot of good and if properly conducted would cost little.

## WHERE ELIZABETH CITY HOSPITAL SAVED A LIFE

In a Few Hours, James Baker Would Have Died of Hernia

James Baker, mill worker of this city, the 18-year-old son of J. L. Baker, R. F. D. 2, was stricken at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning while at work with a strangulated hernia. The case was so violent that the young man almost succumbed before a doctor could be summoned and the case was rushed to the Pasquotank Community Hospital.

After reaching the hospital it was deemed advisable in order to save the life of the young man, to operate at once. There wasn't time to put him to bed, but he was taken to the operating room immediately, and put to bed afterwards. Wednesday he was reported as doing nicely.

This is a case where the proximity of the hospital was a factor in saving a life. The condition of the man was so serious, that it is said life was but a matter of moments almost. Without a hospital here it would have been necessary to take the case to Norfolk and that would have taken eight to ten hours, before he could have reached an operating table.

## THE INDEPENDENT FOR XMAS.

Send THE INDEPENDENT for a year to some friend or relative a long ways from the old home town, as a Christmas gift. The home town news would interest them.

## A CHILD OF PROMISE



MISS VIRGINIA HUFTY  
THIS 16-year-old Elizabeth City girl, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank R. Hufty, captivated her audience in her interpretation of the role of Esther, played by the Elizabeth City Choral Society last week. Her performance in this opera entitles her to first rank among the city's younger vocalists. Photo by Zoeller.

## NEW HOSPITAL HAS GOOD RUNNING START

Fifty-one Cases, Including 37 Surgical Operations First Two Months

Financially and practically the Pasquotank Municipal Hospital here has made a good beginning. Fifty-one cases had come under its treatment by the 7th of December, and of these there were only 14 medical cases. Twenty-seven of the remainder were major operations and ten minor operations, and from these no death had resulted. All major operations were performed by local surgeons.

The hospital opened October 4. During the month of November expenses were paid and a little besides. Patients from practically every county in the district have been treated at the hospital, the cases having been referred to the institution by 14 white and four colored practicing physicians. On the afternoon of November 17, four patients were admitted within three hours; two medical and two surgical.

The hospital can accommodate 45 patients. It now has 15 under treatment. One of the essential features of a good hospital is an adequate laboratory equipment. Pasquotank Municipal Hospital is fortunate in having such a laboratory in charge of a competent technician, which enables a doctor to make a thorough diagnosis of his cases whether surgical or medical. It has a well lighted operating room with excellent equipment as well as excellent anesthetic and sterilizing rooms.

The situation of the hospital is excellent. It looks down and commands a broad view of the Pasquotank river. It is fronted by a green and level lawn and is conveniently located at the end of Riverside Drive, just a few minutes from the heart of the city. The building has 20 private rooms and seven wards, which will each accommodate four patients.

In order to finance the Pasquotank Municipal Hospital \$15,000 worth of stock was sold. Ten per cent was to be paid down at the beginning and ten per cent a month for nine months thereafter. The only thing that can possibly make the plan fall thru is the failure of the stock holders to keep up their payments.

The hospital opened with three nurses: The number is now increased to five. Miss Myra Bowden of Zuni, Va., is superintendent. She has had training at St. Andrew's Hospital in Suffolk. She took a post-graduate course and received anaesthetical training in Chicago, after spending one year in a Richmond hospital.

Miss Sadie Aycock of Petersburg, Va., is the surgical nurse in charge of the operating room. Mrs. Ruth Carr Rowe of Norfolk is night superintendent. She came here from St. Vincent's Hospital in Norfolk. Miss Rita Truitt of King's Daughters Hospital in Portsmouth, Va., and Miss Essie Murphy of Rocky Mount, N. C., are the other nurses. If there is an increase in the number of patients, the number of

## TO OPEN BIDS HERE TOMORROW

To Start Work at Once on New State Normal School Buildings

Thirty-six contractors and construction companies are figuring on the plans and specifications for three buildings for the Colored State Normal School at Elizabeth City, bids on which will be opened at the school here at noon Saturday, Dec. 17.

The contracts to be let call for a handsome administration building to cost upwards of \$80,000; a principal's cottage to cost around \$5,000; a model practice school to cost several thousand dollars, and water and sewerage systems running into several thousand dollars more. The work in all will amount to probably \$125,000 and is the beginning of improvements that will run into a quarter of a million dollars during the next year.

The contractors figuring on this work are scattered all over North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia and Maryland and at least one New York City concern will place a bid.

J. A. Salter, of Raleigh, is the architect, and he is locally represented by J. P. Kramer, who will personally oversee the work to be done. In employing its architect the Board of Trustees of the school stipulated that all work should be supervised by the architect or his personal representative. Mr. Salter forthwith employed Mr. Kramer to represent him.

Of the seven million dollars appropriated by the General Assembly in 1919 for State Institutions, \$450,000 was set aside for the three State schools for Negroes. The Elizabeth City School gets about \$200,000 of this appropriation, besides certain funds from the General Education Board of New York City. Other buildings for the State Normal will be undertaken as soon as the new administration building, practice school and principal's cottage have been completed. It all means the release of a considerable sum of money here during the next few months in business for material and supply dealers, and employment for electricians, plumbers, steam fitters, carpenters, masons and other labor.

## BONDED WAREHOUSE IS PROMISED THIS SECTION

Structure of Concrete or Brick and Steel Will Be Erected Here Shortly

After two and a half years of persevering, tho at times, disappointing endeavor, the efforts of S. B. Parsons and the hopes of hundreds of farmers thruout this section are about to be realized, in the building of a bonded warehouse, the erection of which is assured in the near future.

Mr. S. B. Parsons of the firm of G. W. Parsons & Son, told a representative of this newspaper this week that the warehouse was assured. Mr. Parsons was unable to state definitely where the building would be located, but it will be in Elizabeth City and situated conveniently to steamboat and railroad terminals.

The warehouse, is to be operated as other warehouses of like nature which provide storage for cotton or other marketable produce, receipts for which will be issued negotiable at banks or as collateral. It will provide storage against low markets so that farmers will be able to hold their crops as long as may be desired, with full protection against fire or burglary.

The warehouse will have several thousand feet of floor space. Mr. Parsons was unable to say just how much, as the capacity has not been definitely decided. He will endeavor to organize with all local capital, but any failure in that direction will not halt the project as he seems assured of enough outside capital to carry out the plan.

Mr. Parsons stated that the warehouse would be constructed of brick or concrete and steel.

## FISHERMEN MAKING BEST CATCHES ON RECORD

Unusually large shipments of fish are reaching Elizabeth City this week. The most of these are caught by sea fishermen down the sound and largely consist of grey trout. These net fisherman about seven cents a pound and retail in the cities for twenty cents and up a pound. Sea fishermen this fall are said to be making the most phenomenal catches in history, some crews taking thousands of pounds from the sea at one haul. Crews consist of from four to ten men, according to the amount of net fished. Sea fishing usually winds up about December 1st, but prospects are still good and old fishermen are marvelling at the lateness of the runs.

nurses will also be increased.

W. P. Duff of this city is president of the Municipal Hospital Association, and Richard C. Job is secretary. These men are hopeful over the result already obtained by the hospital and believe it will continue to be successful. Of the 51 cases treated there have been only three deaths. None of these were from operations. One was from old age, a second from serious injuries sustained in an accident, and a third resulted from complications setting in before the case was referred to the hospital. The hospital has treated 36 white cases, 12 of which were females and 24 males; and 15 colored cases, nine of which were females and six males.

## A Queen of Song and a Queen in Personality



MRS. FOREMAN in the role of "Esther, the Beautiful Queen," staged by the Elizabeth City Choral Society last week, would have won the admiration and applause of the audience by her very beauty and personal charm alone. She is at all times a favorite with home audiences and is a superior vocalist. Photo by Zoeller especially for this newspaper.

## \$17,000 IS SUBSCRIBED FOR A COUNTRY CLUB

Thirty-four Persons Each Buy \$500 Worth of Shares; Club is Now Assured.

That Elizabeth City will have a country club is now a certainty. Thirty-four persons have each subscribed to \$500 worth of shares and a board of directors has been elected to serve the temporary organization. The board was elected last Friday at a meeting held in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce here and is comprised of O. F. Gilbert, C. O. Robinson, S. H. Johnson, H. G. Kramer, L. C. Blades, Dr. L. S. Blades, G. F. Seyfert, M. H. Jones, W. A. Worth, Dr. Howard J. Combs and M. L. Sheep. C. O. Robinson is chairman of the organization and R. C. Job is secretary.

Shares are being sold at \$100 each and the extent of the investment will be determined by the amount subscribed. A site committee has been appointed and a meeting will be held at the Chamber of Commerce rooms to-day in order to work out further details of the organization.

The club plans to acquire a beautiful home on a suitable site conveniently situated, with a tennis court, golf links, etc. The building will be bought outright if a satisfactory one is found, otherwise one will be erected.

## POLICE COURT GRIST.

Sam Jones, a colored delivery boy, who was working for a local dry goods store, was tried here Tuesday in police court, charged with the theft of articles of clothing from the store where he worked. He was sentenced to six months on the roads but Judge Spence later reduced the sentence. He entered notice of appeal and was placed under \$100 bond.

D. S. Harris was fined \$10 and costs for speeding. C. H. Bundy was also fined \$10 and costs for exceeding the speed limit of 18 miles per hour within the city limits.

S. S. Lamb was charged with the cost of a hearing upon the charge of passing a crossing upon the Weeksville road at a speed of more than ten miles per hour.

John Brothers, colored, was charged with seduction under promise of marriage, and was placed under \$500 bond for appearance in Superior Court.

FOR SALE—A nice home on South-ave. Call to see W. J. SKILES for price. p. Dec. 16-17

## CHEAP LENSES ARE EXPENSIVE LENSES

There are no bargain days nor substitutes for good eye glasses. Cheaper materials can be substituted for almost anything except a correctly fitted lens. "Cheap" lenses oftentimes cause trouble of a more serious nature than the defects they are supposed to correct. Only people who have been trained to recognize defects of vision and to know how to make a proper correction are capable of advising on such an important subject as lenses. Avoid trouble by consulting reliable, professional people and taking their advice.

## DR. J. D. HATHAWAY

Optometrist  
Bradford Bldg. Elizabeth City, N. C.

## COAST GUARD SALVAGE NEARLY TWO MILLION

Local District Comprising 31 Stations—Rescues and Assists 640 Persons, and Otherwise—Proves Itself an Invaluable Aid.

## EXPECTS TO FIND HIS OWN IN OTHER FIELDS



FRANK R. HUFTY  
MR. HUFTY, organizer and director of the Elizabeth City Choral Society, expects to leave Elizabeth City. He is in correspondence with musical friends in Boston, Mass., and is almost persuaded to east his lot in that city or vicinity. Mr. Hufty hasn't found it easy for a musical genius to make a decent living in Elizabeth City and while he has infinite faith in the city's latent musical possibilities, he doesn't feel equal to the martyrdom of holding on indefinitely waiting for the awakening of an appreciation that will give him something more than a scant meal ticket for his labors. Many are hoping that something may intervene to keep Frank Hufty in Elizabeth City. Photo by Zoeller.

## WILL HOLD TAG DAY HERE CHRISTMAS EVE

Women's Auxiliary Will Sell Tags to Buy Hospital an Ambulance

The Women's Auxiliary of the Pasquotank Municipal Hospital plan to make Christmas Eve a tag day for the purpose of raising money to buy an ambulance for the hospital. One can expect to find a girl on most every corner on that day, when the womenfolk expect to raise a considerable sum.

A meeting will be held next Wednesday, Dec. 21, to complete the plans for Tag Day. The women are taking much pride in the Pasquotank Municipal Hospital and have shown themselves to be in sympathy with the venture.

A committee composed of Mrs. Sam Modlin, Mrs. R. B. Cotter, Mrs. Fred Davis and Mrs. C. D. Bell comprise the pantry committee of the Women's Auxiliary. These women on Tuesday of this week solicited over two truck loads of provisions for the hospital—more than \$100 worth—enough to stock the pantry for several days. The provisions consisted of meat, flour, lard, potatoes, canned goods, soap and a variety of other staple articles of food and supplies.

## MYSTERY STILL ATTACHES TO SUICIDE OF PAINTER

No Trace of Relatives Found, So He Was Buried in the "Potter's Field."

The body of R. M. Davis, a painter who came to this city three months ago, and who died at 1:30 a. m. last Friday from drinking denatured alcohol, was buried here by the county Wednesday, after all efforts to locate relatives had failed.

Davis was 51 years old. He gave his home and residence as Washington, D. C., but said he came here from Norfolk, where he had been living a year. He did not have steady work, but secured work with LeRoy Brothers just before he died. He lived at the boarding house of Mrs. J. A. Scott on Shepard St.

He told Mrs. Scott that his only living relative was a niece in Washington. He also said that he held a paid up endowment insurance policy for \$10,000. This was probably untrue as he didn't have a change of clothing. He was an habitual drinker, but was not disorderly.

He went to work last Thursday morning, but returned in the forenoon and took to his bed. A doctor was called whom he told that he drank a half pint of alcohol. He also stated that he knew its probable results. His condition kept getting worse and he went totally blind before he died.

## RUNAWAY PLAYS HAVOC.

A runaway log wagon loaded with hay, crashed into a buggy belonging to Henry Warren on Burgess Street yesterday, wrecking the buggy and strewn hay for two or three blocks.

According to records at local headquarters, during the 12 months ending June 30, of this year, the local Coast Guard District comprising 31 stations, manned by 240 men, was instrumental in saving or rescuing the lives of 640 persons, and assisted in the salvaging of \$1,804,721 of property. Assistance was rendered one stranded aeroplane and a balloon was towed to safety. Twenty ships were warned of their position and thereby saved from certain disaster and dozens of starts were made to disabled ships which got under way before assistance was needed.

During this period many ships were assisted, the value of which was not made known. It is likely the figures run into millions. Much of the property saved was on land, and in peril of fire, quicksands and other dangers. This property included houses, automobiles, horses, wagons, etc. At the same time many small craft flying inland waters were assisted, so the rescue of the Coast Guard applied to everything from rowboats to trans-Atlantic liners and included practically every kind of property subject to physical danger.

The Seventh Coast Guard District, headquarters of which are located in Elizabeth City, stretches from Station No. 161 at Cape Henry, Va., to Station No. 192 at Bogue Inlet, Swainsboro, N. C. These stations are usually manned by eight to ten men. The number has recently been reduced so that there are only about 240 in the district. The pay of these men has been reduced also.

Just how the record of the Seventh District compares with the record of the entire Coast Guard service, which includes 13 districts stretching from Maine to Mexico and embraces the Pacific Coast, Great Lakes and the Mississippi River, is shown by the report recently made public by Capt. W. E. Reynolds, Commandant of the District, which states that during the 12 months ending June 30, 1921, Coast Guard Cutters and Stations saved the lives or rescued from peril, 1,021 persons.

Assistance was given to vessels carrying 14,013 persons, and valued with their cargoes at \$66,200,445, the total number of lives saved and vessels assisted amounting to 1,933. In addition the service gave miscellaneous assistance to persons and ships in 855 instances.

Two hundred and twenty-two American merchant craft of 122,397 tons were lost, says the report. Five hundred and fifty-five other American vessels were involved in casualties involving damages of \$300 or more.

Two hundred and thirty-six persons lost their lives in the 777 casualties. Seven of the number were passengers and the others members of the ships' crews. The value of the property lost was \$34,932,031.

## An Efficient Personnel

The record of the Seventh Coast Guard District speaks well for the personnel manning these stations, as well as the department heads by whose efforts it is kept above standard. The dangerous coast line of North Carolina makes important the selection of competent men. These are not found in abundance, but on the coast land where the biggest, bravest and bravest types are culled from the hosts of seamen and fishermen who spend their lives on the waters.

Hundreds of men from this district supplement the crews of Coast Guard stations all along the American coast where enough efficient men can not be obtained. It is likely that this section furnishes more men for the service than any three other districts in the department.

## COMMUNITY XMAS TREE HERE CHRISTMAS EVE

Santa Claus Will Be There With Plenty of Songs and Music

The newly organized Ladies Division of the Elizabeth City Chamber of Commerce promises the city a big treat on Christmas Eve—the occasion of the Community Christmas Tree, which will be held on the court house lawn. The tree will be held for the benefit of the public in general and the city's poor in particular.

The massed choirs of the city's churches will be there. The children who will sing the Christmas carols are now being trained. Santa Claus will be there in person to oversee the proceedings and all in all the city is promised a lot of most pleasant entertainment.

Mrs. Sam Modlin is one of the committee in charge of this work and all who have not made plans to get in, but desire to do so, should get busy immediately. The ladies are anxious to make a success of the affair and it is well worth the consideration of the public. At least one other town has taken up the idea of this city's Community Christmas Tree, which proves it a worthy example.